

U.S. aid arrives in Colombia

BOGOTA (R) — Two U.S. C-130 cargo planes arrived here Sunday with the first elements of a \$35 million emergency aid package to help Colombia fight its drug war. The green and grey camouflaged planes were handed over to the Colombian army during a brief ceremony at Catam air force base on the outskirts of the capital. The U.S. embassy had said the planes contained spare parts for eight OA-37 fighter jets that will be delivered Monday as part of the aid package announced Aug. 25. Asked if the planes continued to fight the drug war, a U.S. embassy spokesman said he could not comment. He said one of the planes arrived here empty, however. U.S. Ambassador Thomas McNamara and Colombian air force General Alfonso Amaya were on hand for the planes' arrival. Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Edmundo Arevalo told Reuters C-130s were well-suited for Colombia's war on drugs as they would allow for the quick dispatch of up to 120 troops at a time to airstrips in the rugged interior. Five UH-1 Huey transport helicopters will be ferried to Colombia Tuesday on a C-5 transport aircraft that will also carry bullet-proof vests to protect judges from attacks by drug cartels.

Jordan Times

An independent free political daily published by Jordan Times Foundation

Rafsanjani names Musavi as adviser

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani appointed former Prime Minister Hossein Musavi, a leading radical, as one of his advisers Sunday. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Musavi, 45, served as prime minister from 1981 until last month, when the post was abolished in constitutional reforms approved by national referendum held alongside the presidential election July 28. Musavi is the second key radical leader who has been absorbed by Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, into his administration in recent weeks. Former intelligence Minister Mohammad Reza Shah was appointed prosecutor-general last month. Former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Modarresi, dismissed by Rafsanjani, is the only major radical figure who has not been given a position in Rafsanjani's government. IRNA reported that Rafsanjani told Musavi in a letter that the former premier's experience in government should not be wasted. Musavi has frequently clashed with Rafsanjani over foreign and economic policy. He favours tight state control of the economy and opposes unrestrained links with the West. Rafsanjani favours a more open economy with greater private sector participation and has sought to rebuild bridges with the West and end Iran's isolation.

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Non-aligned summit opens in Belgrade today

King emphasises need to address Mideast issues

By Nermene Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter
with agency dispatches

His MAJESTY King Hussein Sunday joined other mostly Third World leaders gathered in the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, to attend the ninth summit of the Non-Aligned Movement which opens Monday with regional conflicts looming high in the agenda of the three-day gathering.

The importance that the Arab World as well as the international community attach to efforts to resolve the Middle East's problems was further emphasised by the King in an arrival statement.

The Non-Aligned Movement has to deal with issues in the Middle East as it will "with all regional issues which threaten peace and stability in the world," the King said.

The movement could contribute to bringing about lasting peace between Iran and Iraq after eight years of war which came to an end with a ceasefire last August, the King said. The envisaged peace settlement should be based on mutual respect and non-

interference in the internal affairs of each other, he added.

The King called for urgent efforts to resolve the Lebanese problem, "a frightening human tragedy."

The Palestinian problem remains a top priority issue, which has to be addressed on the basis of the Palestinian people's right to live on their national soil so that peace could come to the whole area, he said.

Summing up the issues facing the summit, the King said: "We will work diligently to deal with all the issues of peace, stability and justice in the world as well as relations between the members of the Non-Aligned Movement and the global need for peace and stability."

"We will also deal with such global issues such as the environment, international cooperation to contribute towards protecting it and to counter pollution."

Voicing pleasure over visiting Belgrade, the King paid tribute to Jordanian-Yugoslav relations, "which have grown stronger through the Non-Aligned Movement, of which both coun-

tries were founders."

"It is a pleasure to see that a large number of world countries have joined the movement," he said.

The King, who is accompanied by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Muder Badran and Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, is expected to present a working paper to the summit on the Lebanese strife and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Although Yugoslavia has sought to redirect the attention of the summit to lesser controversial issues such as the environment and more pressing issues such as the growing national debt of non-aligned countries, regional conflicts are expected to take the arena and cause heated debates and verbal clashes among feuding members.

A hint of the trends which will control the summit have already come to the surface over draft statements in which Yugoslavia hoped to adopt a more realistic approach, according to reports from Belgrade. Hardliners like Cuba, North Korea and Libya have called for implicit attacks on imperialism, colonialism and new-colonialism, while moderates called for a balanced statement which gives prominence to the issue

of human rights.

A draft statement which is expected to praise the improvement in Soviet-American ties for promoting peace prospects throughout the world, also drew discontent from Third World countries which either felt that the statement was too optimistic or somewhat inaccurate.

Third World countries feel that they bear the brunt of the new-found "debt" since the Third World is in dire straits and economic issues are not covered by superpower relations.

Hope, however, remains high among member countries that the rhetoric will be cut and a new more pragmatic line will be adopted during the summit. Complaints are getting increasing loud that the movement has lost its "sense of direction" and that it needs a complete change in its image while its ideals remain the same.

"I expect and hope that we will be able to deal in a strong way with the problems that we have," Mubarak told reporters upon his arrival. "I expect more efficient decisions."

Among the regional conflicts that figures high for debate at the gathering, Afghanistan was shaping up Sunday as one of the most divisive.

Afghan President Najibullah appeared headed for problems as soon as he arrived with Pakistan objecting strongly to a draft declaration on his war-torn country.

On the Gulf, Iran and Iraq showed rare unanimity in rejecting a non-aligned resolution urging them to settle their differences.

Any resolution adopted is expected to be greatly watered down. The Iraqi and Iranian presidents are not attending.

Delegates also feared that rivalry between Syria and Iraq would hamper efforts to make an effective statement on the fighting in Lebanon.

African, Latin American, Asian and Arab leaders are gathered here for the summit in Belgrade, the city where 25 countries founded the Non-Aligned Movement 28 years ago.

The movement now includes 102 countries.

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The government of Zaid Fariz indicated that it planned to privatise the three companies in 1985, but the plans were never implemented.

The regional workshop, attended by delegates from at least six countries, UNDP experts and Jordanian officials, was formally opened by Amman Chamber of Industry Chairman Khalid Abu Hassan.

Addressing the gathering, K.G. Singh, deputy assistant administrator and deputy regional director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe (RBASE), welcomed the

two-day regional workshop, which will conclude Monday evening, will look at the present state of the private sector and impediments in its way, the nature of issues facing the government in terms of policies and regulations, past and present government action to boost the private sector, said Dr. Ali Attia, the UNDP resident representative.

"UNDP's role is to render advice and technical assistance whether on a consultancy basis...

or in the form of training and fellowships or other technical measures that will enable the government and the private sector to interact more efficiently and effectively," Attia said.

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Deadlock, repression and poverty spur uprising

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Two words — deadlock and escalation — sum up the latest phase in the 20-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

"In the absence of a political initiative, the name of the next game is violence," said Radwan Abu Ayash, a Palestinian activist concerned by the mounting bloodshed.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last week that Israel's proposal for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had lost momentum, spurring a surge in violence by frustrated Palestinian militants.

Thirty Palestinians have been killed in the last two weeks. Israeli troops are using an increasingly free hand to shoot wanted activists while Palestinians are killing a growing number of alleged traitors in their midst.

Israeli officials seem content with the latest developments, particularly with any sign of Palestinians turning against each other. They are also comforted by a decline in international media coverage of the uprising.

Army commanders have been getting tougher, ordering mass arrests and allowing armed Arab collaborators to flaunt their guns as a warning to nationalist activists.

Behind defiant public statements, local Palestinian leaders rarely disguise their gloom about short-term prospects. They cite increased repression, the growing economic burden of the uprising and the reluctance of the United States to pressure Israel into making political concessions to the Palestinians.

"Things are not moving. We are settling into a long-term war of attrition," said philosopher Sari Nusseibeh, named by Israeli officials as one of the early leaders of the revolt.

"The peace process seems to be blocked on all sides, but maybe this is just temporary," he said.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians are locked in an apparently hopeless test of wills with the occupation authorities over new magnetised identity cards required to enter Israel.

Israeli officials are confident that hunger will force Gaza workers to end a boycott of jobs in Israel called by uprising leaders to fight the cards, imposed to deny activists the right to work in the Jewish state.

Although Palestinian leaders insist the violence is not out of control, moderate activists say they have been unable to stop a wave of killings of alleged collaborators.

"Our young heroes in the strike forces of the intifada (uprising) are taking hasty decisions out of inexperience," said Mahdi Abdul Hadi, head

of a Palestinian policy think-tank.

"The cream of the intifada is behind bars. There is a lack of communication, an absence of institutions."

Abu Ayash said factionalism, personal rivalries and some contradictory signals from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had fragmented the local Palestinian leadership.

After authorising local leaders to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in July to discuss the election plan, Local Palestinian leaders nevertheless hope Washington will take some initiative to

break the deadlock, perhaps by granting PLO leader Yasser Arafat a visa to attend the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly session in New York.

Ghassan Al Khatib, an influential intellectual, said some political gain was required to advance the uprising.

"The intifada will lose momentum if the situation stays like this. Palestinians do feel an urgency to score a success on the diplomatic level," he said.

Afghan rebels demand seat at non-aligned summit

one of the major topics at the summit.

Pakistan, which supports the rebels, has been fighting off a resolution on Afghanistan from a group of countries, among them its traditional rival India. This would call for an Afghan national unity government including Najibullah's People's Democratic Party (PDPA).

The Mujahedeen rebels have resisted pressure to compromise with the PDPA, which they say is responsible for the deaths of a million Afghans.

Mojadidi wrote to Yugoslav President Janez Drnovsek that Najibullah's government was installed by a foreign power — namely the Soviet Union — helped by massive Soviet arms supplies and rejected by the people.

"In accordance with the wishes of the Afghan people, I urge that this seat should be restored to their genuine representatives and that a delegation of the AIG may be seated at the forthcoming summit.

Najibullah left Kabul Saturday to join 101 other leaders in Belgrade for the four-day meeting, which begins Monday.

Kabul airport came under heavy rocket fire from the rebels during the day, causing flights to be cancelled and sending passengers without their luggage.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Kabul said at least 16 people were killed in the barrage on the capital.

Afghanistan is expected to be

on Aug. 24. It gave no further details.

At least 16 people were killed and 52 injured by more than 30 rebel rockets which smashed into the capital.

A lavish departure ceremony for Najibullah with military bands and attended by diplomats was held at the presidential palace in central Kabul and not at the city's airport where earlier a rebel rocket barrage killed 10 people and injured 22.

At least 26 rockets pounded the airport, which also includes a military airbase.

Most of the people killed in the airport were workers and airline personnel.

Government officials said it was the heaviest rocket attack against the airport in the history of the 10-year-old Afghan civil war.

Most countries did not recognise it while the interim government had been awarded Afghanistan's seat at an Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Riyadh in March, he said.

"The Afghan interim government provides a viable and acceptable political alternative to the illegitimate regime in Kabul," Mojadidi wrote.

Kabul says the rebels' administration is a Pakistani puppet and even its supporters acknowledge that it has failed to win much credibility among Afghans inside and outside the country.

Kabul Radio, meanwhile, said the Mujahedeen had killed a senator, Abdul Karim Aga, in Kunduz, northern Afghanistan.

Diplomats predicted the rebels would increase their attacks and possibly even try to seize an

important town in the run up to the Belgrade summit.

Sources close to the government said the heaviest fighting was taking place around Khost, a strategic town close to the Pakistani border, where last week rebels claimed to have launched a new offensive.

The sources said the Mujahedeen were within five kilometres of the town and that the airport had virtually ceased to function due to heavy rebel rocket and artillery fire.

Government officials said the airport was functioning normally but was coming under rocket fire.

"The town is teetering on the brink," one military observer said.

Acting Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nagib Sameer said Friday that government

troops were struggling to retake two security posts near Khost that had been overrun by the Mujahedeen earlier this week.

"The opposition wants to cover their previous defeats. That's why they have expanded the attack on Khost to show their might before the Non-Aligned Movement meeting," he said.

The rebels, divided by bloody infighting, have been under mounting pressure from their backers in the United States and Pakistan to show some kind of military success before the summer fighting season ends.

Heavy fighting was also reported around the holy city of Mazar-I-Sharif in northern Afghanistan and around Jalalabad, the country's third largest city.

Qadhafi says Lebanese situation suits everyone

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi was quoted Saturday as saying the chaos in Lebanon suited everyone involved but he wanted nothing to do with it.

"It seems better for things to stay as they are in Lebanon... This situation allows people to become martyrs if they wish, those who want to commit suicide to do so, and supports those wishing to be sheikhs, sultans or authorities," he said in an interview with the Cyprus-based Al Mouk Al Arabi weekly.

"Lebanon has become a place for settling scores. Iraq with Syria, Iran with Iraq, and we do not wish to be part of this game," Qadhafi said.

Lebanese Falangist army commander Major-General Michel

Aoun Friday sent a letter to Qadhafi urging him to press for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

Lebanon is a close ally of Syria which has 33,000 troops in Lebanon, but Qadhafi said the two countries agreed on strategic issues but sometimes differed on day-to-day matters.

"Geography plays an obstructive role. If Libya and Syria shared borders, we would have united the two countries since the Libyan revolution 20 years ago," the magazine quoted him as saying.

Qadhafi, who Friday celebrated the anniversary of his revolution, said the best thing for the Middle East would be a cleansing 1,000-year civil war from which a "strong united force" would emerge.

The paper quoted unnamed State and Justice Department



Afghan rebels load a Chinese-made multiple launcher before shelling government positions.

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U.S. ready to block immigration of many Soviet Jews, paper says

NEW YORK (R) — Large numbers of Soviet Jews would be ineligible for admission to the United States as refugees under plans drafted by the State Department and other federal agencies, the New York Times reported Sunday.

The newspaper said a likely effect would be to channel many would-be immigrants to Israel.

In addition the administration of President George Bush is opposing bills passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives that would make it easier for Soviet Jews to come to America as refugees.

Under the State Department plan Soviet Jews who have no relatives in or ties to the United States would become ineligible for admission as refugees, the newspaper said.

At least half of Soviet Jewish applicants fall into this category,

the paper said.

It said State Department documents showed that U.S. officials hoped there would be "direct charter flights to Israel" from Moscow for Soviet Jews who were ineligible for refugee status in the United States.

The New York Times quoted Israeli officials as saying they welcomed the prospect of tougher U.S. restrictions on Soviet Jews coming into America because it meant that more would go to Israel and the influx would strengthen Israel.

U.S. State and Justice Department officials were unavailable for comment.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Mos/Max temp. Khalifeh pharmacy 965417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Police 192, 621111, 637777

Rescue Police 622366

Fire Brigade 622365

Health Police 623407

Traffic Police 623690

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 629200

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Arabic Telephone Repairs 651101

Jordan Telecom 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 690100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 629381

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Al-Iman Medical Centre 61381932

Makassed Maternity 642412

Abdel Amman Maternity 642362

Mohassas, I. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmeissani 6641714

Shmeissani Hospital 6691131

University Hospital 6672279

Al-Muhsen Hospital 684585

Al-Muhsen Hospital 6861273/5

Al-Ahli, Al-Aqsa 6861274/6

Al-Ahli, Al-Makassed 6861275/7

Al-Bayan 6861276/8

Al-Bayan 6861277/9

Al-Bayan 6861278/0

Al-Bayan 6861279/1

Al-Bayan 6861279/2

Decree approves amendment to consumption tax law

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Sunday approving an amendment to the consumption tax law which imposes a JD 15 duty on each imported tonne of billet iron, the raw material for making construction steel bars.

The decree followed a decision by the cabinet to reduce customs duty on imported construction steel bars and reinforced bars from 25 per cent to 10 per cent so that larger amounts of this kind of material will be available for use in construction.

The cabinet also approved an increase in-duty of half a dinar on each tonne of potash mined by the Arab Potash Company (APC), and imposed a tax of JD 25 on each tonne of scrap cast iron, aluminium or copper upon exporting them.

Geneva meeting approves UNRWA commissioner general's draft report

AMMAN (J.T.) — An annual meeting by the advisory commission for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA), which was held in Vienna, has approved a draft report by the agency's commissioner general on the Palestine refugee situation, according to Dr. Ahmad Qatani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department.

He told the Jordan Times upon his return to Amman from Vienna that questions related to the refugees' conditions in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories were specifically discussed at the three-day meeting.

Also on the agenda was the question of UNRWA accepting the new educational system adopted recently in Jordan whereby the first secondary class will be named the 10th grade in a 10-grade compulsory stage at Jordanian schools, preceding the two-year secondary school stage, Qatani noted.

He said financial issues and other problems were reviewed by the commission which comprises representatives from Jordan and 9 other nations.

The commissioner general's report is to be submitted to the



Ahmad Qatani

U.N. General Assembly meeting in its up-coming session, a practice adopted by the agency over the past 40 years of its existence. The report normally sums up UNRWA's service in its fields of operation in the Middle East and presents proposals for raising funds to finance these activities. Countries represented at the Vienna meeting are: Jordan, Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United States and the United Kingdom.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ASSAD RECEIVES ALGERIAN ENVOY: Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nasseruddin Al-Assad Sunday received Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Borghan at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The discussions dealt with cultural and educational relations between Jordan and Algeria. (Petra)

MINISTRY ANNOUNCES TRANSFERS: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Mass'ad has transferred Karak Governor Fayed Abbadi as governor of Mafrid to replace Jamil Momani who was moved to the Ministry of Interior, Isma'il Dheham Al Zaben as governor of Karak, and Faleh Gharibeh as governor of Balqa. (Petra)

SYRIAN MINISTER VISITS PAVILION: Syrian Minister of Awqaf Abdul Majid Tarabulsi has visited the Jordanian pavilion at the Damascus International Fair. The Syrian official toured all the sections of the pavilion and listened to a briefing on the industrial achievements Jordan attained in all fields. (Petra)

ANTI-SMOKING CONFERENCE: The second Arab anti-smoking conference continued its sessions Sunday and discussions dealt with a number of matters related to laws and legislations in the Arab countries to curtail smoking. The conferees, discussed matters related to establishing Anti-Smoking Arab Council. (Petra)

YOUTH TEAM LEAVES FOR ITALY: A Jordanian youth delegation Sunday left for Italy to participate in the fourth international meeting due to begin Monday. This meeting is designed to develop youth capabilities. The Jordanian delegation is led by head of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Youth, Mahmoud Al Qaisi. (Petra)

KHAYYAT INAUGURATES NEW MOSQUE: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Khayyat has said that mosques are the places of education where all Islamic sciences used to be taught. Inaugurating the Imam Nawawi Mosque Sunday, Khayyat added that great ulema who left behind remarkable achievements studied at mosques. He also reviewed the biography of Imam Nawawi and the role he played in serving Islam. Chairman of the Mosque Building Commission, Dr. Ali Sawwa, said that this mosque can accommodate 2,000 people and that it is built on a 1,050 square metre piece of land at the cost of JD 95,000. (Petra)

BARGE TO TRANSPORT CEMENT TO EGYPT: The Jordan Ports Corporation (JPC) board of directors have endorsed the agreement signed with the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which provides for operating a barge to transport Iraqi cement to Egypt via Aqaba. The meeting, which was chaired by Transport and Telecommunications Minister Hikmat Khammash, discussed the JPC's draft budget for next year. (Petra)

FACILITATING ELECTION PROCESS: All ministries and official departments will be asked to cooperate with governors to facilitate the process of elections, an official statement issued by the Prime Ministry has said. The statement added that this could be done by enrolling the employees of various government departments in the committees formed for this purpose and by providing transportation, the statement added. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdulla Kamel, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Marri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jalal Odeiqat at the Plastic Artists Association.

★ A North Korean exhibition of photos, books and handicrafts at the University of Jordan.

FILMS

★ A Soviet film week which includes films depicting life in the Soviet Union, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ A French film entitled "Dernier Atom" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.



Prince Talal gets Masters Degree

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad has obtained a Masters Degree in international relations from Georgetown University in the United States, and has now joined the Armed Forces with the rank of Lieutenant, according to an announcement here Sunday. It said that the Prince had first received university education at Harrow University of Britain, and later continued military studies at Sandhurst, before obtaining his Masters Degree.

PSD committees to help in distributing subsidised fodder

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has set up committees of police officers to cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture in the process of distributing government-subsidised fodder to stockbreeders around the country.

A PSD spokesman said that 31 committees will be distributed to the various 31 centres set up by the Ministry of Agriculture to distribute the fodder and to prevent any manipulation.

Farmers wishing to benefit from the assistance, the PSD said, should provide authentic information to the committees so as to receive their allotted amounts of fodder.

The statement urged all farmers and stockbreeders to cooperate with the committees and provide correct information.

The Ministry of Agriculture, meanwhile, announced that farmers are not bound by the agricultural cropping patterns

system, except for the tomato and egg plant crops, during the 1989-1990 agricultural season.

Tomatoes grown in the Jordan Valley and the highlands and eggplants grown in the Jordan Valley should strictly abide by the patterns introduced in the country several years ago.

The statement also announced the ministry's scrapping of regulations concerning licences for greenhouses and plasticulture.

ACC mayors hold talks on improving municipal services

AMMAN (Petra) — The Mayors of Amman, Sanaa, Cairo and Baghdad held talks at Amman Municipality Sunday on means of coordinating their efforts to provide better municipal services to the four capitals and toured the capitals of the four ACC countries.

The statement included an expression of support by the mayors of Amman, Baghdad and Cairo to efforts undertaken by Sanaa to raise the standard of municipal services and improve the capabilities of its staff.

They pledged to provide training to staff employed by Sanaa municipality to help achieve that purpose.

Following the meeting, the mayors — Mahmoud Sharif of Cairo, Khaled Rashid of Bagh-

dad and Hussein Maisouri of Sanaa — were accompanied by Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh on a tour of a number of regions where they inspected work on services and improvements.

The tour took them to Al Hasheem Square near the old municipality building in Amman, public gardens in a number of districts and also to the ancient city of Jerash and the Jordan Valley region.

The four mayors had a meeting Saturday with His Majesty King Hussein who conferred upon them Jordamian medals in recognition of their efforts to improve services in the four capitals of the ACC countries.

ACC to step up cooperation in security matters and extradition

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Interior ministries in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries are to step up their cooperation in security matters and in extraditing convicted persons to safeguard security, according to a statement issued in Baghdad following the conclusion of a meeting grouping the interior ministers of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

The ministers of interior will cooperate in combating crime dealing with riots and violations

of laws and will adopt new regulations to ensure these operations, according to the statement.

The ministers recommended raising the level of training for personnel involved in security affairs, exchanging expertise related to security and uniting stands in regional and international conferences.

The statement noted that the ministers discussed and also recommended certain measures to help curtail drug trafficking, embezzlement, commercial and

economic crimes and currency forgery, and approved of the idea of holding seminars that deal with ways of combating crime in the four-member states.

The ministers recommended an increase in the exchange of visits by officials from the ACC countries and holding meetings by security officials every six months.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Mass'ad represented Jordan at the meeting.

ACC meeting to seek ways to boost operations, activities of cooperatives

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Work to boost the operations and activities of cooperatives within the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will be discussed at a seminar to be held in Baghdad next month.

The three-day meeting, due to open on Oct. 14, will discuss five research papers on cooperatives, their role in socio-economic development and management.

The meeting, organised in

cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), will also deal with working papers presented by the four ACC members on their own experience in cooperatives.

Several regional organisations will be represented at the meeting.

Baghdad will also play host to a Jordanian industrial fair next month. It will be organised by the Jordanian Commercial Centres

According to a statement here, the Jordanian fair will display products by 180 companies ranging from foodstuffs and pharmaceuticals to manufactured industrial items. Jordan-Iraq trade is estimated at \$900 million this year.

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The conference has been pre-

pared for by a technical commit-

tee comprising representatives

from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Syria

and Turkey, the five countries

involved in the project, and the

ministers are expected to endorse

their recommendations.

According to the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, the five states

have already selected a consult-

ancy firm to conduct a feasibility

study and the Islamic Develop-

ment Bank and the Arab Fund

for Economic and Social De-

velopment have allocated loans

totaling \$300,000 to help finance

the feasibility study and will also

contribute towards the imple-

mentation of the interconnection

plans.

The project seeks to enable the

five states to help one another in

power exchanges and to pave the

way for possible linkage with the

European grid at a later stage.

The five countries last January

agreed to set up for the first time

the power grid interconnection in

the region. They also decided

that Amman should host an office

for the work of a technical com-

munity affiliated to the project.

The course, he said, will be

held in Cyprus in October.

Dr. Mohammad Nashash

Mustafa, the association's secre-

tary general, outlined in a speech

of his organisation and future plans

to help promote agricultural cre-

dit organisations.

The project is expected to be

carried out from 1991 to 1993.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1973.

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Neutral questions

THE WORLD has come a long way since that significant day in 1952 when a small group of international statesmen announced the birth of the Non-Aligned Movement. Staying clear of polarisation and superpower spheres of influence as well as helping each other without interfering in the internal affairs of any were among the declared policies of the movement, which today boasts of a membership of 102 countries including Venezuela, the latest entry. But, today, as leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement are opening a summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, all indications are that alignment with one or another of the big international powers is one of the major problems that impede realistic approaches towards international issues by the movement. If that was not all, nonsensical struggles for regional supremacy offer the perfect recipe for verbal fireworks and behind-the-scenes lobbying at a forum which was designed to settle problems rather than aggravate them. What a paradox!

The course of events at the Belgrade summit already seems to have been predetermined as far as some of the most vital issues are concerned, whether regional or international. It is widely accepted that parties supporting rival Lebanese factions are braced for a battle to let their viewpoints be known loud and clear to the forum and influence the course of decisions it is expected to take. Iran and Iraq are not in talking terms to each other despite the fact that direct negotiations are the most logical course after eight years of bitter and ferocious war which benefited no-one but the arm merchants of the world. Fundamental differences over the nature of a final solution to the 10-year-old civil war in Afghanistan are poised to undermine all efforts to restore peace to that beleaguered country and its suffering people. The only areas with any form of consensus (for whatever it is worth) are the Arab-Israeli conflict, where the moderate Palestinian peace strategy is expected to be resoundingly endorsed, and South Africa, where sharply-worded denunciation of Pretoria's racial segregation policy will be renewed with fresh fervor.

Over and above everything, preoccupations with debt problems of individual member states have already cast a cloud over the summit, figuring high as a potential hazard in efforts to adopt realistic decisions on issues with heavy overtones of big power involvement.

It is not at all a bright picture that is coming to us from Belgrade. If anything, there is more grounds for fear that regional conflicts could be further complicated and distorted rather than simplified and steered into the path towards resolution.

Who could be counted on to assume the role of a neutral, honest mediator and tackle the Herculean task that faces the summit when it is clear that almost every member is somehow involved in some conflict or another? What hopes are there that some leaders will take the courageous initiative of rising above political squabbles and individual interests? That is the sixty-four-thousand dollar question facing the players as well as the audience when the curtains go up today in Belgrade.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Sunday discussed the situation in the occupied Arab territories in view of an Israeli escalation of repression and the continued killing of civilians. Israel's stepped-up efforts to quell the intifada and stifle the resistance is being confronted with an escalation of resistance on the part of the Palestinian people themselves, said the paper. Such escalation on both sides is bound to lead to further dangers and calls for a development of the means of resistance on the part of the Palestinian population, the paper added. It said that the Israelis who continue to enjoy Washington's protection at the U.N. Security Council are assured of no drastic measure to deter them from pursuing their atrocities against the Palestinian people. The American veto at the Security Council is making it difficult for the world community to impose any sanctions or penalties on the aggressors and Zionist terrorists; and Israel is therefore maintaining its iron fist policy with all that it is entailing of repression against the civilian population, said the paper. But the world organisation should not remain paralysed and unable to take serious steps to stop such crimes in occupied Palestine. The U.N. Security Council ought to safeguard its own credibility and its reputation by embarking on meaningful measures to stop further aggression on the innocent civilian population of occupied Palestine.

Al Dustour daily also commented on the situation in the occupied territories where it said the stone throwers are more determined than ever before to drive out the invaders. The paper said that regardless of the Israeli measures and resolutions taken by the world community at the Security Council, the Palestinians are bent on pursuing the struggle to regain their freedom. Israel, added the paper, should recognise the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and should it maintain its repressive measures, the Palestinians have no alternative but to confront them and continue the course of struggle. The recent armed confrontation between Israeli troops and resistance elements in Nablus is only one aspect of the ongoing struggle; and could be stepped-up and intensified at all fronts, the paper added. It said that the Palestinians are paying a high price with their own blood for their freedom but it is only through blood that legitimate rights can be regained.

Sawt Al Shaab daily also dealt with the situation in Nablus following the armed confrontation between Israeli army troops and Palestinian resistance men. It said that the people of Nablus seem to be determined to confront the barbaric invasion which has lasted for 21 years and never to kneel before the aggressors. There is no way that the Israelis can impose their will on the Palestinian people who can and will carry out the resistance in all forms other than stones and rocks, and at all levels, the paper noted. Perhaps, said the paper, the new development in the resistance activity inside Palestine will move the Arab states to take meaningful action that can help put an end to all Israeli atrocities.

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, *The Jerusalem Post*.

By David Krivine

RICHARD NIXON reveals in his recently published book 1999—Victory Without War (Pocket Books, \$8.95) what went on in his head when he was president of the U.S. The book deals with the conduct of international affairs. It is well-argued and well-written. Everything he says makes sense — except for one *idée fixe*: his obsession with communism.

All agree that the system of government prevailing in the Soviet Union is bad; Gorbachev himself says so. Particular blame attaches to one brand of this ideology: Stalinism. Other versions can be less tainted. Alexander Dubcek of Czechoslovakia was a communist, and he meant well.

For many, the communist creed is to this day a shining ideal, and they are not entirely crazy. The record of capitalism in most of the underdeveloped countries is nothing to write home about. Wealth coexists with grinding poverty throughout Africa and Latin America. The social gap is so wide in a country like Brazil that the underdog despairs of ever bridging it. Understandably he aspires to egalitarianism, and responds willingly to calls for the abolition of the class system.

Yet communist regimes have done more harm than good, because they are authoritarian. The representatives of the proletariat, it turns out, represent only themselves. Central planning is stiffly bureaucratic. On all these points everybody agrees with Nixon, but he goes further. He sees communism as something satanic, diabolic.

The grading of evil persons as devils originates in religion, but is also too common in politics as well.

Its purpose is to make the population hate the enemy. You can come to terms with a fellow human, but there is no tampering with a fiend. When you are faced with that kind of creature, it can only be a fight to the finish.

As a rational man Nixon advocates hard bargaining with the Russians; as a traditionalist, he cannot help conceiving of the communist as a kind of Lucifer or Beelzebub. Detests to him does not mean making friends. "Real peace," he says, "is not an end to conflict, but a means to living with conflict." Or: "The U.S.-Soviet conflict is not a problem but a condition. A problem can be solved; a condition can only be treated."

He sees the world as divided between the goodies and the baddies: "America wants peace, the Soviet Union wants the world."

Nuclear deterrence is therefore essential. He explains: "Whether a defensive or an offensive power has nuclear superiority makes a profound difference. Superiority in the hands of a defensive power is a guarantee of peace; superiority in the hands of an offensive power is a threat to peace."

Defensive power means the U.S., offensive power means the Soviet Union. The two sides cannot help being that way, their characteristics are inborn. The American system is peace-loving by its very nature. The Russians' totalitarian system cannot sur-

Nixon's shades of evil, Shamir's taboos

lively without expanding."

Can it? The Russians make the same accusation against the West. Marxist dogma stipulates that "driven by its own contradictions" capitalism cannot survive without imperialism and colonialism. Yet the capitalist states have stopped expanding — why should the communist states be unable to do the same?

Now that the Russians are starting to throw off the shackles of the past one cannot help breathing a sigh of relief that Nixon is no longer America's head of state. His policy of absolute distrust may have been justified in Stalin's day, but Gorbachev is

something else. The new regime in Moscow has done enough positive things to deserve a measure of credit.

Something warmer than cynicism and suspicion is needed if the terrible *chasm* separating East from West is to be spanned. Nixon admits that the ordinary Russian is a human being; it is the communist, he maintains, who is a devil. Needless to say the Russians believe with equal fervour that the capitalist is a devil. Both sides exaggerate. Some communists (and capitalists) are admittedly beyond redemption, but a man does not automatically belong to the nether world because of his beliefs — provided they are genuine beliefs.

So it is with us and the PLO. Nixon's warning against Gorbachev (that we should not be taken in by his honeyed words) is reminiscent of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's warnings against the newly-moral Arafat. The difference is that Washington has to negotiate with the communists, because it has no one else to negotiate with.

We believe that we do have someone else to deal with the elected representatives of the Palestinians. There is nothing wrong with that view; it is sensible to negotiate with the PLO.

believe that we should seek moderate elements. The PLO have a long record of terrorism, and that is a criminal form of warfare. We can have legitimate reservations about using them as our prime bargaining partners.

What is crazy is our Nixon-like demonisation of the PLO, and we go further than he does. We brand the Tunis-based agency as something profane. Talking to them is taboo, lest we be defiled.

A law was passed in the Knesset punishing anyone who exchanges words with members of that infernal sect, and a further bill driving that point home has just been submitted by Tezh Hanegbi. Israel's socialist deputy premier had to exclude himself from a conference of the Socialist International because a PLO delegate was there. Israels attending a symposium abroad are stricken with fear that they may unwittingly shake hands with one of Arafat's incubus.

Being unable to prove they don't exist, we take refuge in declaring that they don't belong to the human race. If foreign government officials want to communicate information about the PLO to one of our diplomats, he is not supposed to listen. Nixon is less extreme than we are: he does not refuse to negotiate with his principal enemy. But he expects little out of the process. Even if the talks succeed, the enemy — he insists — will remain an enemy.

His attitude, if adopted in the White House today, would not advance the cause of peace with the Soviet Union very far. Blackballing the PLO will not advance the cause of peace in the Middle East either.

ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING



After Paris, a new war in Cambodia?

By Peter Eng
The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — The failure of the Paris peace talks a month before Vietnam's final troop pullout has forced Cambodia to a crossroads. Ahead may be more low-level fighting and arduous new diplomacy, or a more violent and chaotic phase of the 11-year war.

In the 19-nation gathering that ended Aug. 30, negotiators failed again to resolve the key issue in the current conflict: The long-standing hostility between the Vietnamese-installed government and the Khmer Rouge, the largest group in the three-party guerrilla coalition.

Most non-Communist nations are likely, for the moment, to continue to recognise the Phnom Penh government, hoping for an overall political settlement. China and the United States have made increasingly clear they want an acceptable settlement — not just a Vietnamese pullout — before considering normalisation of relations with Vietnam.

Interviews by the Associated Press with two dozen officials in Vietnam and Cambodia produced a wide range of possible scenarios for the months ahead. It is certain the nature of the conflict will change in some way after Sept. 26, when Vietnam says it will withdraw the last of its 26,000 soldiers, whatever happens in Cambodia.

That could usher in some months of battlefield testing, and especially increased attacks by the Khmer Rouge, which killed hundreds of thousands of people before Vietnam invaded in late 1978 and ended its rule. The pullout comes at the start of the dry season, when combat usually intensifies.

The Khmer Rouge responded to Vietnam's pullout of 50,000 troops in 1988 with new attacks to try to seize strategic areas, said Gen. Tran Cong Man, editor of the official Vietnamese army newspaper, Quan Doi Nhan Dan.

He reported major fighting since last December in the area of Pailin, in western Battambang province bordering Thailand. He said the guerrillas were trying to establish there a "liberated zone" and competing government of the country.

"Sometimes they temporarily occupy some points but later they are thrown back" at Pailin, Man said in an interview. He said it was at Pailin at the beginning of this year that Vietnamese troops last participated in significant infantry combat.

Man predicted that after Vietnam's pullout, the Khmer Rouge will target two other provinces bordering Thailand, Koh Kong and Siem Reap.

"The Khmer Rouge think that if they can occupy these three provinces, they can reverse the situation," he said.

Vietnamese and Cambodian officials insist the guerrillas pose no real threat to the Phnom Penh

government, and will eventually dissipate if China and Thailand reduce military aid, as they have indicated they will. Man said the Thai army already has halted artillery and reconnaissance aircraft support for the Khmer Rouge.

In an interview, Phnom Penh's Vice Prime Minister Kong Samol said his government couldn't resolve the impasse because "we have given all our concessions."

But diplomats say Hanoi and Phnom Penh still want a political settlement because only that can guarantee an end to the international isolation that has stunted their economies.

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Chad-Libya peace accord leaves ball in OAU court

By Abakar Assidikh
Reuter

N'DJAMENA — Chad and Libya have agreed to end their 15-year-old border conflict but it is now up to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to make the accord work.

"Signing an agreement does not mean that all the problems are solved," Chadian Foreign Minister Acheikh Ibn Oumar told reporters on his return to the capital of N'Djamena.

Acheikh, who signed the peace pact in Algeria with Libya's Foreign Minister Jadallah Aouzou Al Talhi, said the OAU ad hoc committee on the conflict would be responsible for finishing the task.

He gave no details on the agreement, which proposes settling the dispute over the Aouzou strip by international arbitration unless a political solution is found within a year.

Chad and Libya have been fighting for 15 years over the Aouzou strip, which covers 114,000 square kilometres in the heart of the Sahara desert.

Libya annexed the territory, supposedly rich in minerals, in

1973. It bases its claim to Aouzou on a treaty that was drafted in 1935 but was never ratified by the then colonial powers.

France and Italy.

After three thousand years graffiti lives on and on

By Philippe Chevalier
PARIS — To the north of Paris, on the edge of the Halatte forest, the small town of Vernoil has a museum which is unique in Europe. Some 2,700 graffiti, lovingly assembled, tell the story of three thousand years of the history of man with his joys and his sorrows, his dreams and his fantasies.

This collection was born of the passion of one man for that popular and spontaneous art brut, graffiti, the primitive form of communication. Nothing predated Serge Ramond, aged 65, to become a seeker of signs left by the hand of man.

"It came to me quite by chance, thirty years ago," explains this former supervisor in the chemicals industry who has become a "marginal historian" as he puts it. "I was visiting the collegiate church of Saint-Léon-d'Essent, in the Oise department when I came to a stop in front of an elegantly-shaped boat carved on the wall in the 18th century. The sad, grey stone came vividly to life through the play of light on the naiif picture. It

was love at first sight."

Thus began a passionate quest for this graffiti from the past.

Serge Ramond travelled over Europe searching citadels, windmills, monasteries, belfries, mediaeval torture chambers and the deepest dungeons.

"Since Antiquity, man has only thought of leaving a trace of his transitory passage," says Serge Ramond. "In these, there is a heritage which deserves to be studied and protected."

As the "graffiti man" could not resolve to only enjoy these precious carvings fleetingly, he developed an impression technique for reproducing them. It consists in placing a sheet of plasticine on top of the engraving. The impression obtained comes away easily without leaving a mark. He then pours plaster onto the impression in order to obtain a positive copy.

In the Roman catacombs, Serge Ramond made mouldings of pictures drawn by the first Christians waiting to be tortured. In the prison cells in the fortress of Loches, in the Touraine region, and in Saint-Jacques church in Dieppe, he copied battle scenes. In Selles Castle in Cambrai, he discovered carvings, which are striking with realism, of the torture inflicted on heretics in the 15th century.

The fortress of La Rochelle offered him an 18th century treasure, left on the walls by the English sailors captured by pirates: crests, ships in full sail, Puritan poems dedicated to his British majesty, and homesick thoughts of a captive dreaming of home.

Here is the signature of two lovers leaving a trace of their visit to Septmonts castle: Victor Hugo and Juliette Drouet. There is the booty gleamed in the keep in Clermont, in the Oise department, which had become a prison for women last century. One of them had recorded the tender feelings she bore one of her companions, in the stone, decorated with intertwined hearts. "Berthe from Grenelle loves Paulette from La Chapelle". From the trenches on the Chemin des Dames route, in the Aisne department, Serge Ramond has brought back graffiti or bas-reliefs made by French and English, German and American soldiers in the Great War. Between two assaults, they engraved a homage to the glory of their regiment, in the limestone of their shelter, or else they evoked the memory of a missing comrade or a loved woman.

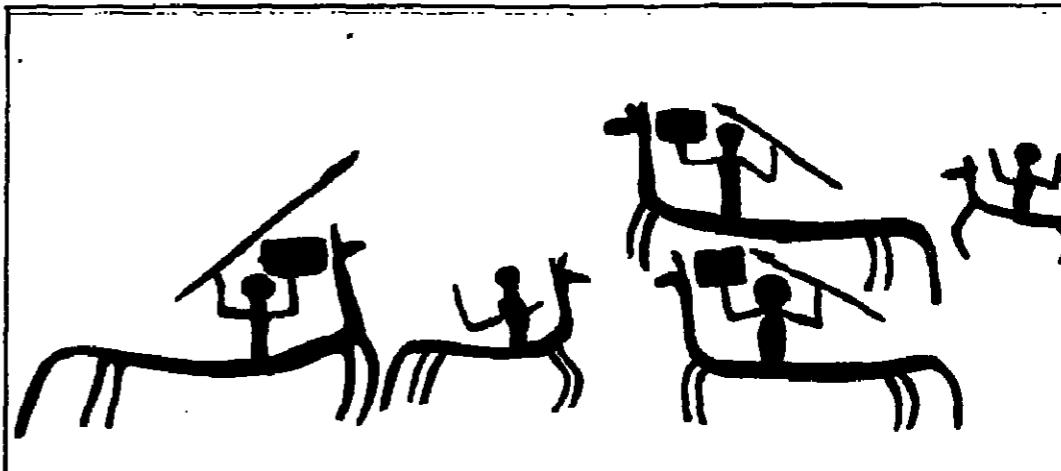
Cave drawings, gallows and hanged men offered up to the beasts of crows, stars, crosses, sexual symbols, cabalistic labyrinths, enigmatic drawings, maxims, and fragments of rhyme are all humorous or desperate, cynical or tragic messages. Just like bottles with messages thrown into the sea by unknown characters from past centuries. There are bawdy ones and erotic ones, even risqué ones such as this epitaph dating from the 16th century, discovered in Bonnac castle in the Lot-et-Garonne department: "Here lies a poor wretch who was hanged and had an erection. A passing monk who saw him in this position thought he wanted to fuck death".

The visitor can see, with astonishment, how the preoccupations of man have remained the same from the Bronze Age to the 20th century: religion, politics, love, eroticism, a taste for gambling and the fascination with death — French features

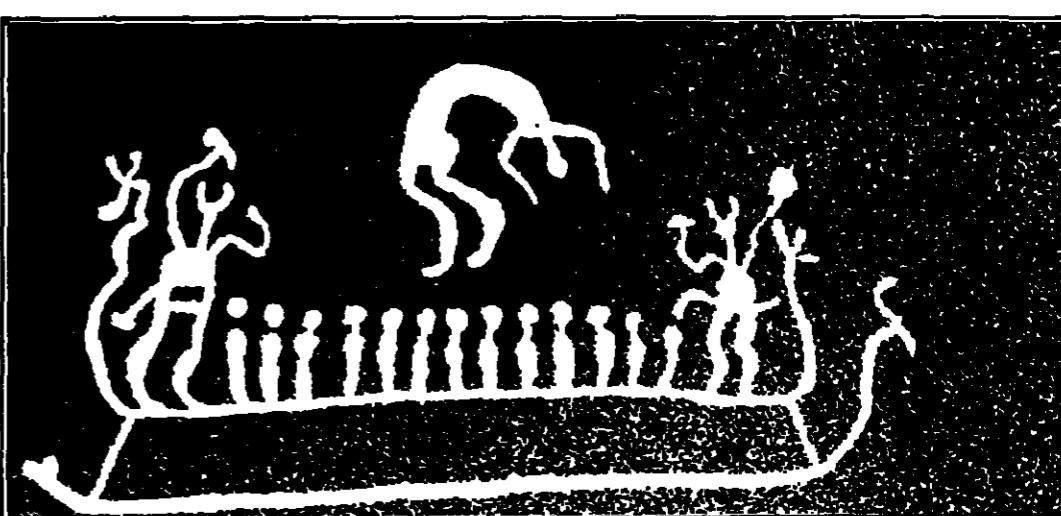
Each discovery of a graffiti fills Serge Ramond with deep joy: "How can one escape the strange poetry of these messages which have withstood the test of time and been coloured by moss and lichen? This petrified souvenir always leads one back to the same question: what kind of person hides behind this graffiti? A lone-walker, a vagabond marking his passage, a watchman indulging in his pastime, or a prisoner seeking to beat boredom or anguish?

Who was the captive about to be released who, in his cell, carved out "Farewell prison. I curse you, I have no wish to return"? Which philosopher left the following adage in a tower in Burgundy in the 16th century: "Trust in yourself and beware of everything"?

The visitor can see, with astonishment, how the preoccupations of man have remained the same from the Bronze Age to the 20th century: religion, politics, love, eroticism, a taste for gambling and the fascination with death — French features



Ingraved graffiti from the Iron age



Ingraved graffiti from the Bronze age

At 43, on Top Of The Pops.

For some life is a song

and father respectively. Frankly, Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr owe her a hefty debt for putting the turbo-charging into what might otherwise have been a night of frumpy, overpriced nostalgia.

Yet while Liza admits that "my whole life I've sung songs that were written before I was born," she's also a keen rock and country fan, citing Springsteen, Bon Jovi, Michael Jackson and (incredibly) Gun's N' Roses as special favourites.

Nor is the Liza/Pet Shop Boys liaison without recent precedents, with the combination of diva and gadgetry duo seeming to be oddly felicitous. Shirley Bassey and Swiss technician Yello created the weird fusion of *The Rhythm Divine*. Tom Jones went out and hired the Art of Noise to go with his tuxedo, and hip-swivelled back into the charts with kiss.

Cut to Liza with a Z, wearing all black and curled up on a sofa in the Savoy. She hears my thesis out, but isn't buying.

"Yeah, but Tom Jones always had a rock'n'roll career. Shirley Bassey was a big record star. I've never been a big record star. I never had a hit record, actually. It's funny, at 43, to go on *Top Of The Pops*."

She talks in brightly coloured bursts divided up by hoarse cackles of laughter, her observations pummelled into shape with exclamations and audible italics.

She's used to being feted for TV specials, stage musicals and big movies like *Cabaret* and *New York New York*, but is still tickled pink by this latest visitation of success. Her new album is called, provocatively, *Results*.

The Pet Shop Boys, Liza? "I heard a song called *Rent* about a year and a half ago, and I thought now who wrote that? Cos the words are wonderful and it's a beautiful melody, and yet it's got a good beat to it, and that's what

attracted me to Neil and Chris [Lowell], the lyrical content of what they write."

Liza smiles a "God, isn't it obvious?" kind of smile. "So when I signed with CBS and they said who do you wanna work with, I said well, I really like the Pet Shop Boys! And they went WHAT! and I said well they write wonderful songs, they really do. They'll write with this kind of violent beat underneath and on top of it when they put these Gregorian chant melodies and these rather poetic words, and their songs are always about something, even if it's a cynical look at something. And I like that."

She won't be the only one who likes it. *Results* is a canny distillation of modern pop technique steeped in a rich tradition of musical theatre. Liza's treatment of Rent sounds like a song from a Sondheim show, autumnally orchestrated yet triumphantly ironic. Her version of Sondheim's *Losing My Mind* sounds like the Pet Shop Boys. Her reading of Tamia Tikkaram's *Twist In My Sobriety* (a favourite song of Neil Tennant's) resembles an east European funeral dirge, with an iron foundry in operation nearby. The entire project is both a technical feat and an audacious imaginative leap.

"One of my major ambitions was to do this record," Liza goes on. "It was a big change and a big risk for me take, and I loved doing it. It's real safe when you're successful doing one thing, and it's real tempting to stay there. But then you get to a point in your own life, in your own self, when it's OK to risk. It's OK if people don't like it. When they do like it it's just phenomenal, and that's what's happening to me right now."

You might think that with wardrobes groaning with gongs, awards and 57 varieties of statuettes, La Minnelli might sometimes be tempted to rest on her laurels and take a break. She says not.

"I think in all the movies we see or the portrayals of people winning something, they always win it at the end of their life. D'ya know what I mean? It's weird when you win everything when you're 24. But every award is for a specific thing that you've done, so you just sort of go on. You think oh good, what can I do now? You were good in that particular piece, it's not like you're the best ever. At least that's the way I look at it."

She's sceptical about criticism, in any case. "Even if the reviewer who likes it. Results is a canny distillation of modern pop technique steeped in a rich tradition of musical theatre. Liza's treatment of Rent sounds like a song from a Sondheim show, autumnally orchestrated yet triumphantly ironic. Her version of Sondheim's *Losing My Mind* sounds like the Pet Shop Boys. Her reading of Tamia Tikkaram's *Twist In My Sobriety* (a favourite song of Neil Tennant's) resembles an east European funeral dirge, with an iron foundry in operation nearby. The entire project is both a technical feat and an audacious imaginative leap.

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Non-Aligned Movement to seek debt relief for poorest nations

BELGRADE (R) — The Non-Aligned Movement summit will appeal to the developed world to write off the debt of the world's poorest nations, diplomats said Saturday.

But the appeal will be tempered by differences between Latin American countries and Africa over an external debt estimated at around \$1.3 trillion, the diplomats said.

External debt drained \$143 billion from Third World coffers between 1984 and 1988 — \$43 billion in 1988 alone — according to a draft document on debt to go before the four-day summit opening Monday.

The document suggests setting up a debtor's forum to exchange experiences and strengthen negoti-

ating positions and called on creditor governments and international financial institutions not to restrict further loans to major debtors but to limit the cost of debt servicing to a percentage of export earnings.

"As far as the debt of the least developed countries is concerned, writing off and forgiveness of debt, combined with lower interest rates and new highly concessional loans are essential," it says.

The 102-member Non-Aligned

Movement include some of the world's poorest countries such as Bangladesh, which owes \$9.5 billion, Cameroon (\$6.5 billion) and Congo (\$4.7 billion).

Diplomats said African countries were pressing for a major Non-Aligned initiative on debt in Belgrade and Latin American countries, who between them owe \$401 billion, preferred to use the International Monetary Fund and in some cases the commercial banks to negotiate a settlement directly.

"This is not the right forum for debating the debt problem which should be discussed with creditor nations rather than among debtors," Peru's Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco-Cox told Reuters Saturday.

Peru, a member of the Non-Aligned Movement's debt com-

mission, takes a hard line on debt repayment, refusing to use more than 10 per cent of export earnings on debt servicing.

Venezuela, which owes \$29 billion, is expected to take a moderate line and Argentina also felt the movement was not the right forum to pursue a campaign on the issues, Latin American diplomats said.

Argentina tops the Non-Aligned league of debtor nations with \$60 billion.

Despite the Latin American opposition, Zimbabwe, the outgoing chairman of the movement, is expected to unveil a debt plan for Africa pressing multilateral agencies and other governments to take a moderate line on repayment and debt rescheduling.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Hilton to manage Taba hotel

CAIRO (R) — Hilton International will take over management of the luxury hotel at Taba, the Red Sea resort once disputed by Egypt and Israel, a spokeswoman for the hotel chain has said. Nazima Raffa, public relations manager for Hilton in Egypt, said the company would take over from Sonesta this week. Raffa told Reuters that Hilton, which has four hotels in Egypt, won a tender after Sonesta said about four months ago it wanted to pull out of Taba.

22 banks sue Norway over K.V. loans

OSLO (R) — A group of 22 foreign banks have said they were suing the Norwegian state for some \$84 million they say is owed after state arms firm Kongsberg Vapenfabrik (K.V.) went bankrupt in 1987. The creditors claim that the state, as owner of K.V., took part in company management in a way which directly contributed to the economic crisis which arose, the banking group said in a statement. Norway's industry ministry has rejected earlier demands from the banks for negotiations on the subject. The banks, which issued a writ in Oslo's city court, are suing the industry ministry, former members of the board and the former managing director.

Iran wants \$1.5b compensation

NICOSIA (R) — Iran will allow Japanese contractors to leave a stalled joint petrochemicals project in return for \$1.5 billion, the official Iranian news agency IRNA has said. IRNA quoted deputy oil minister and managing director of the National Iranian Petrochemical Company Ahmad Rahgozar as telling Kayhan newspaper that a "friendly settlement" would be reached if a Japanese consortium led by Mitsui and Co. Ltd. paid the sum. Iran wants to finish the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Co. complex at Bandar Khomeini which the firms say is uneconomic. Rahgozar said the firms have agreed to pay \$500 million of Iranian debt to Japanese banks, and have unofficially agreed to pay Iran a further \$500 million.

Turkey sees very low growth

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's GNP growth rate will slump to a mere 0.2 per cent in 1989, the lowest rate in eight years, the State Institute of Statistics (SIS) has said. A major factor pulling growth below Turkey's 2.5 per cent population growth rate was the worst drought in 60 years. Farm output would be 10 per cent lower than 1988, it said. Turkey, normally a grain exporter, was forced to buy five million tonnes of wheat and feed grains this year after a drop of more than 20 per cent in its own harvest, Turkish officials say.

Strikes, terror hit Sri Lankan economy

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's economy is deteriorating fast and only a quick end to widespread strikes and terror can halt the trend, diplomats and business men say.

As the Indian Ocean island struggles with strikes called by the left-wing People's Liberation Front (JVP), Sri Lankan business and foreign diplomats warned that the government needed to win its murderous conflict with the organisation quickly or the economy could collapse.

"There is a total production breakdown," said one of Sri Lanka's most prominent businessmen. "An economic collapse has to happen if this disruption continues."

And there was no prospect that the former British colony would have to join other Third World nations and reschedule a foreign debt it put at around \$4.2 billion.

"There is no need for Sri Lanka to reschedule. We can meet our debt service commitments without considerable difficulty," Karunatillake said.

He said Sri Lanka's burgeoning garment industry had been the principal sufferer from the wild strikes and orders had been lost. Exports of tea, rubber, coconuts and gems had less pressing export deadlines, he stated.

The first tranche in March 1988 but did not release the second tranche of \$87 million due last March.

Talks between IMF and Sri Lankan officials ended in Colombo last Monday and "the impression the IMF delegation will give its board is certainly not unfavourable," Karunatillake said.

The diplomats and business men said the central bank's confidence in the island's economic future was exaggerated.

A United States embassy report on Sri Lanka's economy released in July put real GDP growth this year at 1.5 per cent.

World Bank-sponsored talks on new aid pledges to Sri Lanka to be held in Paris in October could be affected by the country's escalating death toll, diplomats said.

The fund gave \$40 million as

Oil exploration to cost Oman \$300m a year

MUSCAT (AP) — Oman will spend an estimated \$300 million a year on oil exploration, but a big discovery is improbable, the Petroleum Development Oman's (PDO's) in-house newspaper Al Fahal has reported.

"The fields are likely to get smaller. We are unlikely to find a bonanza," the paper quoted

PDO Managing Director Mike Pink as saying.

"We are becoming essentially a drilling company and for the foreseeable future something in the order of \$300 million will be spent on drilling each year — a very large amount of our capital expenditure," Pink said.

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Sunday, September 3, 1989
Central Bank official rates

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U.S. dollar	605.3	612.3
British pound	943.4	952.5
Deutschmark	306.1	309.2
Swiss franc	323.1	329.2
French franc	203.8	211.7
Japanese yen (for 100)	434.7	418.8
Dutch guilder	271.9	274.6
Swedish crown	90.8	91.7
Indian rupee (for 100)	42.7	43.1
Belgian franc (for 10)	146.7	148.2

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'SAAB struggles'

of company profits in recent years. Some analysts believe these too may have peaked and are concerned about a downturn of sales in Brazil. SAAB-Scania's largest single market for trucks.

The core of SAAB's problems, according to analysts, is that it is just too small. The company produces only around 115,000 cars a year and its models lack the firm market identity established by its perennial Swedish rival Volvo.

After driving in the mid-1980s when the dollar was strong, the company has been hard hit by the contraction in the U.S. market and has cut prices drastically to keep stocks down.

"The car division can't go on the way it has up to now. They need some kind of cooperation," said analyst Hakan Filipsson of Baring Securities.

After a board meeting last week, the company announced that it would reduce its workforce by a further 500 in addition to the 1,500 jobs that SAAB said it would eliminate last June.

The Svenska Dagbladet newspaper quoted an unnamed company source as saying that management was pinning all its hopes on talks with the U.S. Ford Motor Co. which the Swedish company hoped would step in some kind of rescue package.

"A 'no' from Ford would mean the end for SAAB," said the source. Neither SAAB nor Ford would comment.

SAAB began as an aircraft firm. The word "SAAB" is the Swedish acronym for "Swedish Aircraft Shareholders Company."

Its first car, unveiled in 1947, was built by aircraft engineers and had for its time a uniquely aerodynamic design. It merged with Scania Trucks in 1969 to become SAAB-Scania.

Trucks have been the mainstay of a joint venture deal is a more likely possibility. But otherwise, I see SAAB just struggling on. The whole history of SAAB cars is one of struggle," he said.

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Consists of 2 bedrooms, one sitting room, lounge with terrace, separate central heating and solar heater (no lift for the building).

Location: Western Shmeisani, Fares Al Khouri Street near the Civil Service Commission.

Call tel: 625895

DUTY FREE CAR FOR SALE

Toyota Corolla liftback, model 1982.

Price JD 950.

Call Pascal office: 642878 (French Embassy)

Home: 816746.

FURNISHED VILLA FOR RENT

A newly built villa consists of 3 bedrooms, living-room, large salon with dining room, modern large kitchen, 2 bathrooms, telephone and garage.

Location: New Zarka.

For more details please contact Tel. 887238.

ROOF-TOP APARTMENT WANTED

German expatriate seeks roof-top apartment (3 bedrooms) with terrace or small house with garden for rent.

Pls. contact Mr. Haupt, Amra Hotel, between 16 and 20 hours. Tel. 815071, Room No. 612.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Qualified firms are requested to contact MBS Project before Sept. 6, 1989, to tender for services for project management information system. Final tender date is Sept. 14, 1989.

For information call 647601.

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

Danny Devito
Joe Piscopo
in
WISE GUYS

Show: 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30
10:30

33001

Tel: 675571

Clint Eastwood
in
DIRTY HARRY
IN THE
DEAD POOL

Shows: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

RED
SCORPION

Shows: 12:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

World News

East Germans await their fate

WEST BERLIN (R) — While hundreds of East German stream out of Hungary to the West, 116 others are entering their second month camped out in West Germany's diplomatic mission in East Berlin hoping they too can emigrate soon.

But Western diplomats say there is scant chance East Berlin will soften its view that the refugees in the mission annex, and 244 in West German embassies in Prague and Warsaw, can only be assured freedom from prosecution if they return home.

The East Berlin refugees, who like the others refuse to leave unless offered exit papers, appear to have settled into a routine four weeks into their cramped stay in a two-storey building normally used for functions and new conferees.

West German diplomats tell the 116 it would be better to leave but say they would never force them out of the mission, closed since Aug. 8 to stem the flow of refugees.

A recent glimpse of the "modest guests", as one source described them, shows they are kitted out in new tracksuits and make the most of the last summer sunshine in the courtyard where some of the 12 children among them play.

Parents read West and East German newspapers or books given by staff. They all watch

television to follow the latest twist in the crisis, hoping a solution in Hungary, where thousands of East Germans are waiting to emigrate, could help them.

The diplomats say those in the mission are aware their position is desperate yet are scared to leave, despite East German assurances they will not be victimised.

Mission sources say the East Germans are making the most of their resources. Doctors, computer experts and a teacher are among the refugees as well as craftsmen and skilled workers.

Cooking and washing up are done by rotation and families eat in shifts, enjoying means agreed the day before and then prepared with food shipped in from West Berlin by mission workers.

On Monday the eight or nine school-age children will start classes, taught by the German teacher. Some of the adults have been learning English or working out in an aerobics class.

Others play table tennis or flex muscles on an exercise machine. Extra showers and toilets have been installed.

The long-stay visitors, who mostly arrived with little more than a toothbrush, have presented mission employees with novel tasks.

One was recently sent across the Berlin Wall to buy 50 bras in various shapes and sizes.



Women are loaded into a police van in Cape Town after a protest march against hanging and the detention of children without trial

Defiance campaign goes to the beach

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — Thousands of South African anti-apartheid protesters of all races paddled into the Indian Ocean on a whites-only beach here Sunday, while police kept a watchful eye on the sidelines.

The protest at Addington Beach, about two kilometres from the centre of Durban, was the latest move in a national defiance campaign against Wednesday's parliamentary elections which exclude blacks.

The cheerful protest was in stark contrast with Saturday's scenes in Cape Town when riot police used tear gas and water cannon filled with purple dye to disperse demonstrators from the city centre.

The Durban demonstrators, many of them wearing yellow caps with anti-apartheid slogans, arrived in a constant stream from mid-morning and were allowed past a chain of police officers which stretched along the beach road.

The lay on the beach in the early spring sunshine, played ball games and occasionally defied local bylaws by paddling into the water, oblivious of water cannon and police trucks which were pulled up in the beach car parks.

"There are no incidents to report. We have ample numbers of police at the beach, but nothing has happened," a police spokesman told Reuters.

By late morning, so many demonstrators had converged on the beach that they spilled on to adjoining roads.

The self-styled Mass Democratic Movement (MDM), which has organised the anti-election defiance campaign, also promises a consumer boycott of white businesses in the coming weeks.

The protests boiled over Saturday when police and hundreds of demonstrators clashed in central Cape Town in some of the worst scenes of violence for years in South Africa.

Lawyers estimated that up to 1,000 people were taken in police

trucks from the city centre to a neighbouring police station after protesters tried to march on parliament.

Among those held were anti-apartheid cleric Allan Boesak and more than 50 journalists, including representatives of Japanese, Norwegian, Austrian and British organisations. All were released after giving statements, police said.

Shoppers fled in panic when riot police used tear-gas and water cannon filled with purple dye to disperse the demonstrators.

"It is absolutely, utterly scandalous," said anti-apartheid cleric Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who offered sanctuary to fleeing demonstrators in his city centre cathedral.

"It is quite outrageous that people wanting to protest against apartheid which the government has said is dead should be treated in such a brutal fashion," he told reporters.

A church protest scheduled in Soweto Saturday was abandoned after police and troops with automatic rifles surrounded the venue and detained journalists.

"They deployed an army as if South Africa was about to be attacked by foreign forces," said Frank Chikane, secretary general of the South African Council of Churches.

"We cannot allow these propaganda efforts... to tarnish South Africa's image abroad where a destructive view is being created by totally slanted reports emanating from South Africa," he said.

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JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1989

Column 10

Scottish sheep high on mushrooms

LONDON (R) — Sheep that eat hallucinogenic mushrooms are causing problems for drivers on the remote Shetland islands off Scotland, the Times newspaper said Saturday. It said psilocybin, or "magic," mushrooms, popular as an alternative to LSD, grow in abundance on the rugged islands and the sheep have taken to nibbling them. "You have to watch the road at night," said one resident. "It's as if the sheep are drunk. They fall over and take no notice of the traffic." Allan Jones of the north of Scotland Agriculture College said the flock's confusion could be caused by magnesium deficiency "but hallucinations are possible."

Best-known tenors compete in world cup

ROME (R) — The world's three best-known tenors — Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras — will sing together for the first time on the eve of next year's world cup soccer final. Italian organisers said Friday. The two-hour concert, with all the proceeds going to charity, will take place July 7 in the ruins of the third century baths of Caracalla in Rome, the summer home of the Roine opera house. Twelve Italian cities will stage the month-long finals of the soccer tournament with the final played in Rome's Olympic stadium July 8. Spaniards Domingo and Carreras and Italian Pavarotti, speaking to a Rome news conference on a satellite linkup, said the concert would include popular songs as well as operatic arias. "All three of us like football very much and I'll be hoping to see Spain playing Italy in the final the next day," said Domingo, speaking from Los Angeles.

A church protest scheduled in Soweto Saturday was abandoned after police and troops with automatic rifles surrounded the venue and detained journalists.

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"He said the police threatened to shoot him and his colleagues when he arrived at the outdoor stadium.

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